

Miscellaneous.

PRIZES IN CLASS OF ARCHITECTURE: UNIVERSITY COLLEGE.—The distribution of the prizes and certificates of honour in Mr. Donaldson's classes of architecture, at University College, for the session 1848-49, took place on the 30th June. We give a list of the recipients. *Fine Art*, 1st year: prize and 1st certificate of honour—Thomas Gundry, of Soho-square; 2nd certificate—W. Howden; 3rd certificate—Joseph James; 4th certificate—G. Legg. *Fine Art*, 2nd year: prize and 1st certificate—W. R. Alchin, of Gray's Inn-road; 2nd certificate—T. Hill; 3rd certificate—A. S. Goodridge; 4th certificate—Henry Wood. *Construction*, 1st year: prize and 1st certificate—William Allingham, of London; 2nd certificate—Thomas Gundry; 3rd certificate—T. C. Tarring; 4th certificate—W. Howden; 5th certificate—B. W. Betts. *Construction*, 2nd year: prize and 1st certificate—James Knowles, of Clapham; 2nd certificate—W. R. Alchin; 3rd certificate—Thos. Hill; 4th certificate—Henry A. Darbishire.

RAILWAY JOTTINGS.—A comparison of the earnings of the principal lines for the last half-year contrasts very favourably, it appears, with those of the first half of last year; and there is said to be a large increase in particular during the last few weeks. A bright summer's day was Monday week in the dark destiny of hundreds of the poor creatures who burrow in the miserable holes and corners of the parish of St. Matthias, Bethnal-green. On that day 1,400 of them, under the truly pastoral care of their clergyman, Mr. Joseph Brown, were whirled out of town by special train on the Eastern Counties line, to Havering-atte-Bower, where they spent the most part of a sunny day in health-yielding holiday-making in the open field and under the green-wood tree. There the tattered and torn and weary and worn lay scattered about in groups that would have formed at least as interesting and picturesque a subject for the daguerreotype or the pencil of the artist of feeling as Ascot or Eton in all their glory. A 'station clerk,' on the part of nearly 4,000 of his fellows, earnestly beseeches the aid of the press in procuring them a few days annually by way of holiday. From early morning till bed-time—Sunday and Saturday—seven days in every week—year after year—he complains—and without a single holiday—are such as he obliged to be at their posts; and with this result, as he insinuates, that in spite of the best intentions and the most watchful energy, a little habit of loose management inevitably supervenes, in the obviation of which the public itself has a special interest. There appears to be some reason in such a complaint, although the public certainly have also a special interest, in being assured that railway stations are not to be left even for a single day, far less a week, in the hands of inexperienced clerks or managers. Two or three experienced hands, however, might surely be easily engaged as circuit clerks, to take the place of a stationed clerk, should he desire it, for a week; and we dare say many of the latter would willingly allow them to be paid out of their week's salary for doing their week's work, much rather than have no holiday at all. A plan such as this may be their only chance of amendment under present circumstances. (On Monday week the Act of Parliament, incorporating a Company for assuring sums of money in the event of loss of life or personal injury while travelling on the railways of the United Kingdom, came for the first time into operation. In the event of serious accidents, officers are to be sent to the spot with assistance and money on behalf of the assured. The joint terminus for the railways running into Portsmouth now rapidly approaches completion. We are told it will not have half so much ornament as many of the second-rate stations on the South Coast and South-Western lines. The entire works are being constructed by Mr. Bushby, of Littlehampton, the contractor.

LORD ALBERT CONYNCHAM AND LADY ALBERT, received the Council and other members of the British Archaeological Association, at Hamilton-place, Piccadilly, on Wednesday evening last, for the purpose chiefly of shewing them some interesting matters brought from Greece, whence they have just returned.

PROJECTED WORKS.—Advertisements have been issued for tenders, by 28th inst., for the erection of a small church and parsonage at Grazeley, Reading; by 17th, for building a new school-room, infirmary, and other works, at Paringdon workhouse; by dates not specified, for erecting a brick bridge over the river Gipping, at Claydon, Suffolk,—for the erection of a house in May Fair,—and for building a chapel at Nottingham; by 16th instant, for the restoration of the exterior of Fenstanton Church, Hunts; by same date, for the erection of a cottage in Gothic style near St. Ives; by 17th, for additions and alterations at Dodding-ton workhouse; by 24th, for erection of Harlow new schools; by 14th, for erection of parish school-house and teacher's lodging at Houston, Paisley; by 20th, for enlargement of Andover Union Workhouse; by 14th August, for 5,600 loads of Spanish and Honduras mahogany timber, and 7,000 loads African timbers, both for the navy; by 17th inst., for 1,000 tons' hard Guernsey granite at Isleworth; by 17th, for 400 waggons for Great Northern Railway (extension of time); and by 20th, for making new line of road near Worcester. Proposals are also wanted, by 1st September, for lighting Lynn with gas for three years.

SCENES BEHIND NEW OXFORD STREET.—A ludicrous-serious but touching remonstrance having been sent to the *Times* by a number of poor wretches, living, or vegetating rather, in crowds, amongst filth and darkness, in Church-street and Carrier-street, behind New Oxford-street, a reporter was sent to examine into the truth of their statement of grievances. The result is a most appalling detail, that speaks volumes, not only for itself, but, as a sample of scenes but too wide spread and common throughout this 'fair metropolis,' which too much resembles the state of many of its own fair consumptive occupants, all beautiful without but rotten to the core within. In reference to some of his details, the reporter says, "It would be too disgusting to enter into many minutiae observed in this horrible place," and yet, "in spite of the demoralizing influence, many of its poorest inhabitants seem to desire cleanliness." In fact the want of public conveniences not only in such districts, but throughout the whole metropolis, though it may tend to keep up the 'fair outside,' is a source of gross pollution and a disgrace to all concerned. But this is only one evil. The crowding of multitudes into single houses is really horrible. The police return of inmates for each room in these dens of filth and fever gives an average of sixteen to eighteen per room. Speaking of one amongst many others occupied, by sixteen persons, the reporter says, "It appeared at first sight of this room to be physically impossible that sixteen persons could sleep in it; and indeed there could not be room unless some of them rested in a sitting position in the angles of the wall with their children on their knees." The opening of a pavement flap exhibited a crowd of poor creatures in a dark cellar below, the atmosphere steaming from which was thick and moist with offensive effluvia and exhalations. Want of space alone prevents us from saying more at present on this painful subject.

NEWLY-INVENTED TINTING TABLETS.—The facility of giving the effect of light and shade to drawings is enhanced by the introduction of this newly prepared tinted paper. With no other labour than merely scraping the surface, where required, by a penknife, a graduated light is obtained, up to a brilliant white. Sketches made from nature, and but slightly tinted with colour to the forms, are by this new and facile means readily imbued with the atmospheric effects of sky and cloud, the vivacity of daylight, and the rapid induction of chiaro-scuro. The advantages are apparent to those who would amass a store of recollections for professional purposes, and become equally inviting to the amateur, by abridging the toil and augmenting the truth of representation. An advertisement in another page of our journal will inform our readers where they can obtain it.

FULHAM UNION WORKHOUSE.—Some correspondents, who are candidates for the office of clerk of the works, complain of having had their time unnecessarily wasted by the guardians. We are not in a position, however, to enter into the question.

ANTIQUARIAN TRAVERSE.—The Roman boundary wall was lately traversed from the 'Wallend' and Newcastle to Carlisle and Bowness, by a numerous party of antiquaries and other 'pilgrims.' The party appears to have been a zealous no less than a jovial one, and footed every foot of the way in their eight days' pilgrimage along the old wall, which in one place, near the Roman *Magna*, Caerborran, they found to be still ten feet in height, with not less than 13 courses of stones in the wall. That the pilgrimage was an orderly one, and within bounds in its progress throughout, may well be credited, inasmuch as one of its leaders and lecturers was a clergyman, the Rev. J. C. Bruce, who ranged his congregation round King Arthur's Well on the way, and at one and the same time quenched their antiquarian thirst and their physical.

CITY COURT OF SEWERS.—The City Commissioners, who appear to be anxious to do all that may conduce to the health of the inhabitants, meet regularly. At a court held on the 10th, Mr. Haywood, the surveyor, stated that every gully is now trapped throughout the city; that the New River Company had given a vast quantity of water; and that the drains were flushed with water twice a-week, and the markets were flushed with water three or four times a-week.

DISCOVERY AT CHESTER.—A few days ago, a Roman pig of lead was discovered in the excavation for the sewers in the city of Chester. It is in shape very much resembling those now lying at the British Museum; and the inscription upon it, so far as we have been enabled to ascertain, is as follows:—

CAESAR.....DOM

The middle part of the inscription cannot at present be decyphered. It was found about 6 feet below the surface, embedded in a wall of masonry 3 feet thick; and as it had mortar on the top as well as the bottom and the sides, it is probable it has been built in the masonry. This is the third Roman pig of lead which has been discovered in this neighbourhood. The mysterious passage, already referred to, has also been crossed again in another street (Bunce); it is cut out of the solid rock, and about 18 feet 9 inches from the surface. We believe it is the intention of the Chester Archaeological Society to investigate the matter, so as to solve the problem as to whether it is a subterranean passage used for purposes of a religious or a warlike character, or, as before suggested, for the drainage of the town.

CONVERSAZIONE AT THE SCHOOL OF DESIGN.—On the evening of Saturday, June 30, a conversazione was held by the students of the Government School of Design at Somerset House, and was numerously attended. The students' association for mutual improvement appear to have arranged it. They were indebted to various manufacturers for the loan of several interesting specimens of ornamental art and manufactures of various fabrics and materials; also to the masters and friends of the institution and the one at Spitalfields, who contributed a selection of pictures, ornamental designs, and portfolios of sketches.

TENDERS

Received for the erection of the new County Hospital at York: Messrs. J. B. and W. Atkinson, architects:—

Thos. Layton, York	£10,425	0	0
Bankroft and Son, Leeds	10,160	0	0
Jos. Dearden, Halifax	10,103	12	0
T. Cordingley, ditto	10,100	0	0
Tilney and Woodhead, Leeds	9,515	10	0
Wm. Tredale, ditto	9,399	0	0
Ben. Bulmer, Roston, York	9,290	0	0
Thorpe and Atkinson, Leeds	9,289	0	0
Pulleyn and Son, York	9,280	0	0
Thos. Sinfoot, ditto	9,173	0	0
N. Akroyd, ditto	9,166	0	0
Francis Syth, ditto	9,085	0	0
Samuel Atack, Leeds	9,023	6	9
Rehbergh and Shafco, York	8,994	0	0
E. W. Oldham, Poppleton, York	8,993	5	7
Accepted tenders:			
Masonry, by S. Atack	£1,393	7	0
Brickwork, by ditto	2,690	7	6
Carpenters and joiners' work, by Pickard and Ogden	2,492	0	0
Plumbing and Glazing, by S. Atack	575	0	0
Slating, by ditto	210	0	0
Painting, by P. Moore	104	0	0
Ironfounders' work, by Jos. Walker	146	15	0
Plastering, by C. Clayton	497	0	0
			£1,000 9 6

N.B. The quantities were furnished. The estimates do not include the ranges, heating, ventilating, or architect's commission.